

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 MCT-01 HA-05 /067 W  
-----059047 201045Z /23

O R 200910Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8089  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE  
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC: FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SHUM, AF  
SUBJECT: AFGHAN REGIME DISPLAYS SENSITIVITY OVER HUMAN RIGHTS  
CRITICISM

REF: STATE 127655

1. SUMMARY: THE NEW AFGHAN REGIME HAS REACTED TESTILY TO  
INTERNATIONAL CRITICISM OF THE INCLUSION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN  
AMONG THE POLITICAL PRISONERS IT IS HOLDING. END OF SUMMARY.

2. ON MAY 17, AN AFGHAN GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN LASHED OUT AT  
"SOME FOREIGN REACTIONARY CIRCLES WHO SAVAGELY TRAMPLE HUMAN  
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RIGHTS AND INTEGRITY, ENGAGE IN FAKE AND POISONOUS PROPAGANDA  
IN AN INTRIGUING MANNER AGAINST THE UNPRECEDENTED LIBERATING  
REVOLUTION OF THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN, AND, AMONG OTHER THINGS,  
SAY THAT THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN (DRA) HAS  
TREATED, OR TREATS, THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN OF THE NADERI DYNASTY  
(E.MN THE FORMER ROYAL INEAGE) IN A WAY THAT IS CONTRARY TO  
HUMAN RIGHTS."

3. THE STATEMENT ASSERTED THAT "DURING THE GREAT REVOLUTION OF SAUR 7 (APRIL 17), A TOTAL OF FORTY PERSONS WERE KILLED (ON MAY 6, CHAIRMAN NOOR MOHAMMAD TARAKI TOLD THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS THAT 72 OR 73 WERE KILLED), INCLUDING TEN MEMBERS OF THE NADERI DYNASTY, WHO LOST THEIR LIVES AS A RESULT OF THE ORGANIZED AND ANTI-NATIONAL RESISTANCE OF MOHAMMAD DAOUD, WHO . . . NOT ONLY FIRED ON THE HEROIC OFFICER, WHO, WITH DUE CONSIDERATION TO MILITARY TRADITIONS, COMMUNICATED TO HIM THE MESSAGE OF THE LEADERSHIP OF THE REVOLUTION, BUT ALSO FIRED ON HIS CHILDREN, WHO, IN ORDER TO SURVIVE, BESSECHED HIM TO SURRENDER HIMSELF TO THE REVOLUTIONARIES." (TARAKI TOLD THE AMBASSADOR ON MY 6 THAT THE DAOUD FAMILY, INCLUDING SOME WOMEN, ENGAGED IN A FIERCE SHOOT-OUT WITH ARRESTING TROOPS.)

4. THE SPOKESMAN ALSO NOTED THAT, " A SMALL NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE NADER AND DAOUD FAMILIES AND THEIR SHOE-LICKERS, WHO ARE IMPRISONED IN VIEW OF THEIR PROVOCATIVE AND ANTI-REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES, WILL BE TRIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW AT THE REVOLUTIONARY COURT." IN THIS CONNECTION, THE STATEMENT ADDED: "A FEW CHILDREN AND WOMEN BELONGING TO THE NAER AND DAOUD FAMILIES ARE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE SECURITY FORCES ONLY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THEIR LIVES WITH DUE CONSIDERATION TO HUMAN INTEGRITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS, WITHOUT INFILCTING UPON THEM THE SLIGHTEST PHYSICAL OR SPIRITUAL DAMAGE, AND APERTINENT DECISION WILL BE ADOPTED REGARDING THEM IN EXPEDIENT CIRCUMSTANCES."

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5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH WE CANNOT BE CERTAIN WHAT TOUCHED OFF THIS TESTY DRA BLAST, WE ARE AWARE THAT SOME LOCAL ISLAMIC AMBASSADORS (E.G., THE EGYPTIAN, THE SAUDI ARABIAN, AND THE BANGLADESHI) HAVE MADE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMENTS TO HIGH OFFICIALS OF THE NEW REGIME. (IN ONE PARTICULAR CASE OF SUCCESSFUL INTERCESSION FOR A SPECIFIC FAMILY, SAUDI ARABIAN AMBASSADOR SHAIKH ABDULLAH SALEH HABABI REMINDED TARAKI THAT AMONG MUSLIMS, JUSTICE IS IMPORTANT, BUT AN EVEN MORE IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION IS MERCY). ADDITIONALLY, THE LOCAL DIPLOMATIC WIVES' ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN DISCUSSING A SPECIAL APPROACH TO THE SOLE FEMALE MEMBER OF THE NEW CABINET, DR. ANAHITA RATEBZAD, MINISTER FOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS, ASKING HER TO INTERCEDE IN BEHALF OF THE IMPRISONED

WOMEN AND CHILDREN. THE WIVES HAVE NOT YET AGREED ON A COURSE OF ACTION WHICH WOULD GAIN THE APPROVAL OF THEIR HUSBANDS AND GOVERNMENTS. ONE OF THEM, A YUGOSLAV, THOUGHT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL WITH THE WIFE OF THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR, WHO IS DEAN OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS. THAT MAY HAVE BEEN THE CHANNEL THROUGH WHICH THE AFGHANS HEARD ABOUT THIS PROPOSED INTERCESSION. WHATEVER THE CASE, THE DRA HAS REACTED WITH REMARKABLE SENSITIVITY.

ELIOT

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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